FIVE CENTS

The Suffragist

WEEKLY ORGAN OF THE
CONGRESSIONAL UNION FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE

JUNE 19, 1915

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Connecticut Women Form Branch of the Congressional Union and Visit in Deputation Hon. P. D. Oakey, of Hartford

Section of the Deputation

Vol. III JUNE 19, 1915 No. 25

The Suffragist

Weekly Organ of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage

1420 F Street N. W., Washington, D. C.

Art Editor . . . . MRS. NINA E. ALLENDER
Chairman Circulation Department, MRS. W. T. BURCH

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Notes of the Week

Suffrage At Constitutional Convention in Louisiana

MRS. SAKE D. MAHAN, state chairman of the Woman Suffrage Party of Louisiana, writes, "The bill providing for a constitutional convention for Louisiana has passed at last; and the convention will be held in New Orleans beginning September 14 and running sixty days.

"A strong effort will be made to have woman suffrage written into this new Constitution. The convention primaries will be held on July 27; the election of delegates on August 31.

"We are planning to hold mass-meetings in every parish in the state during the summer."

Convention of Women Trade Unionists

THE Fifth Biennial Convention of the National Women's Trade Union League has been the big event of the week in New York City. Meetings have been held each day at the headquarters of the Women's Trade Union League, 43 East Twenty-second Street.

Miss Mary E. Dreier, former President of the New York Trade Union League, said: "At our first convention eight years ago there were eight women present. Today there are ninety-one, with delegates from Boston, Chicago, St. Louis, Baltimore, Harrisburg, Kansas City and other large cities. . . ."

"We felt it was important to have the meetings here this year for two reasons. One is that there are more working women in this state than in any other state in the Union, with the exception of Pennsylvania. The second reason is because, with the vote on woman suffrage coming next November, we felt it was important for the working women—some of them from states where they can vote—to come to New York and bring a message to the working men.

"The working men will listen to working women as they will to no others. They know that when they talk of long hours and poor pay, of bad housing and inadequate fire protection, they are talking from actual experience."

The demand of working women for the vote is indeed irresistible. Moreover, it is essentially a national demand, for commerce today is nationally organized, and can only be adequately controlled by national legislation.

Suffragists Get $1,500 000

AN inventory, filed in New York on June 15, of the property mentioned in the will of the late Mrs. Frank Leslie, showed that nearly $1,500,000 will be turned over to Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt for the use of the suffrage cause.

Our Government and Democracy

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE CHARLES L. Guy, of New York, contributed a strong article to the *New York World* of Sunday, June 13, in which he states:

"As a Democrat I believe in democracy, which is something this Government has never yet tried. Our Government now, in which one-half of the population is denied a voice in its affairs, is a government of hypocrisy and not of democracy."

"Flag Day"

BRIGADIER-GENERAL HARVEY, in a speech made to school children at Washington on June 14, said of the flag of the United States: "It symbolizes an ideal . . . the ideal of equality and personal liberty, of giving to every man and every woman equal rights under the law and equal opportunity for the enjoyment of life, liberty and property."

Not a word to the little girls of the flat denial of citizens' rights to women. While one-half the people is disfranchised, "flag oratory" is hypocrisy, not democracy.

What "the People" Want

SECRETARY BRYAN, in a statement issued June 11, quotes a Congressman who said, "While I am personally against war, I am in favor of the country having what it wants. If the country wants war, let it have war, but let us first find out if this country does want war.

"If it becomes necessary to ascertain the sentiment of the country, I suggest that a ballot be taken. Let those who want war vote for war and those opposed to war vote against it. And let the vote be taken with the understanding that those who vote for war will enlist for war and those who vote against war will not be called upon until after those who want war have exhausted their efforts." "I still believe," added Mr. Bryan, "in the right of the people to rule, and think the Congressman's suggestions might insure deliberate action on the part of the voters."

In all this there is not a word of the right of women to say whether they want war or do not want war, in spite of the services and sacrifices they will be confidently called upon to make in the event of war.

Political Activities of Japanese Women

A RECENT bulletin from Tokio to the American newspapers states: "The prominence of women in the recent campaign (connected with the Japanese demands on China) has started discussion on all sides. Some parliamentarians who are pronouncedly against woman suffrage, talk of introducing a bill prohibiting women from taking active part in political meetings or discussions, or joining political societies." Viscount Oura, the Minister of the Interior, said in a speech on the general election that "there was an alarming increase in the number of women taking part in the campaign," and he feared this might be taken as a prelude to woman suffrage in Japan.

Women's Services in Germany

THE *New York Times* of June 10 prints a letter which tells of the wonderful work of German women in economizing food stuffs.

The utilization of the food material by women in war is absolutely necessary for the national existence of Germany.

The war is at least making people realize that the services of women are of fundamental value to the life of the nation, since they are connected with the sources and the maintenance of life.

Jane Addams in Audience With the Pope

MISS JANE ADDAMS, chairman of the Special Committee appointed by the Woman's Peace Conference at The Hague to visit the capitals of Europe in the interests of peace, had an audience with the Pope while at Rome. She received a sympathetic greeting from Pope Benedict, who, like the former Pontiff, Pope Piux X, has labored for peace most arduously. He received Miss Addams with "much more sympathy," newspapers comment, than did the Italian Government, which has declared for war against the advice of both Popes. Pope Benedict expressed the hope that the initiative for peace would come from the United States.

A Woman Major in England

THE impossible has almost been achieved in England, with the appointment of Dr. Louisa Garrett Anderson to a position bearing a title "equivalent to" that of major in the English Army. Dr. Anderson is engaged in organizing for the War Office a military hospital of 500 beds. "Although it is technically impossible," the *New York Tribune* states, "for a woman to hold a commission in the English Army, she has been given a military rank equivalent to that of major of the Royal Medical Corps."

Wages of English War Workers

VOTES FOR WOMEN (June 4, 1915) says:

"How much that safeguard (of the vote) is needed by women in the labor market is proved again and again as more occupations are thrown open to women in the present crisis. The manager of a West End shop told a pressman the other day that the liftwoman, compared with the liftman, 'is a great improvement; she is easier to manage and is also cheaper. *Where we have been in the habit of paying a man 22s a week we pay the liftwoman* 15*s.*, and provide her with her uniform, which costs £2 2*s.*' The italics are ours. The same ingenuous acceptance of injustice to women was shown at the annual conference of the National Association of Grocers' Assistants, when, according to the Daily Chronicle, a resolution was passed protesting against certain firms employing women assistants at wages which did not cover the cost of the lowest standard of living, *and urging employers to distribute among the male staff the difference in wages paid to the female assistants.* This is one way of breaking down the prejudice of men to the employment of women, but it is not the way that would be chosen if women enjoyed an equal status with men in the country!"

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NATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN VIRGINIA

WORK for the Susan B. Anthony amendment was begun under most favorable circumstances in Virginia on Thursday, June 10, when a Virginia branch of the Congressional Union was organized at a convention held in Richmond. Mrs. Sophie G. Meredith, the Virginia member of the Advisory Council of the Union, assisted by Miss Mabel Vernon, made the arrangements for the convention, which was attended by women from the principal towns of the state.

Two weeks before the conference, Mrs. Meredith made an appointment with Representative A. J. Montague, of Richmond, for a committee of five from the Congressional Union conference to call upon him on June 10 at 11 a. m. to express to him the position of many Virginia women on national woman suffrage; but on the morning appointed, Mrs. Meredith received a letter from Mr. Montague saying he was unable to meet the committee as he had been called out of town to attend a wedding. It was, therefore, impossible to carry out this part of the convention program, but the demonstration which was to have preceded the delegation took place according to schedule.

At 10.30 o'clock three automobiles beautifully decorated in the purple, white and gold of the Congressional Union left the Jefferson Hotel and proceeded through the principal streets of Richmond to the postoffice in the center of the business district. In the first car was carried a huge banner of purple and white bearing upon it in gold, "We Demand an Amendment to the United States Constitution"; in the second car was the standard, "Congressional Union of Virginia," and from the third floated a number of Congressional Union flags. As the automobiles approached the postoffice, a corps of fifes and drums struck up "Dixie" and continued to play other spirited tunes as an immense crowd gathered. Mrs. Sophie G. Meredith presided at this meeting and introduced in turn Miss Mabel Vernon, of Delaware; Mrs. Edna S. Latimer, of Maryland, and Mrs. Harry Lowenburg, of Pennsylvania. About five hundred people, mostly men, greeted the speakers with enthusiasm, and at the end of the meeting passed a resolution calling upon Representative Montague to vote for a federal amendment enfranchising women. When Mrs. Meredith announced that the appointment with Mr. Montague was simply temporarily postponed, the crowd laughed and heartily applauded.

The cars then carried the suffragists to the Jefferson Hotel, where luncheon was served; Mrs. Walter Adams, of Norfolk, presided as toastmistress and called upon those present to stand close together and work as never before so that the suffrage amendment might be passed at the next session of Congress. At the afternoon session in the parlors of The Jefferson, Mrs. Meredith presided in the place of Mrs. Dexter Otey, of Lynchburg, who was unable to be present on account of illness. Mrs. Meredith introduced Miss Alice Paul, chairman of the Congressional Union, who gave a clear and most inspiring account of the work done in Congress and the results accomplished. This work, Miss Paul explained, had been done by practically a lobby committee at Washington with very little support from the states; she expressed her conviction that when the enfranchised women of the country, assisted by an organized band in each "unfree" state, unite in their demand for national woman suffrage, the amendment will pass. It is the work of the Congressional Union, Miss Paul said, to carry the appeal to the Western women to help their Eastern sisters.

Mrs. Sophie G. Meredith

Chairman, Virginia Branch of the Congressional Union

A constitution for the Virginia branch of the Congressional Union was then read by Mrs. N. Hill Urquhart and adopted. The officers chosen were: Chairman, Mrs. Sophie G. Meredith, of Richmond; first vice-chairman, Mrs. Walter Adams, or Norfolk; second vice-chairman, Mrs. Dexter Otey, of Lynchburg; third vice-chairman, Dr. Love-Bossieux, of Richmond; secretary, Mrs. Percy Reed, of Highland Springs; treasurer, Mrs. N. Hill Urquhart, of Richmond.

At the evening meeting in the salon of The Jefferson, an address of welcome was made by the newly-elected chairman, Mrs. Meredith. Mrs. Frances Wilson Grayson, of Warrenton Va., gave a most dramatic and stirring reading of Miriam Craig Wentworth's play, "War Brides." Mrs. Harry Lowenburg gave a vivid account of the recent efforts of Pennsylvania suffragists to see President Wilson when he addressed 4,000 newly naturalized citizens in the city of Philadelphia, and Mrs. Donald R. Hooker, of Baltimore, a member of the Executive Committee of the Congressional Union, made an excellent address on "The Relations of State and Federal Work." Mrs. Hooker emphasized the urgent need that women should be quickly enfranchised, and called upon women to work for the national amendment as the speediest method that can be adopted.

Miss Paul then explained the election policy the Union had pursued in the congressional campaign last November; and made it clear that at present the Union has no election policy; and trusts it will not again have need of one, since favorable action on woman suffrage is expected from the next session of Congress.

After the evening meeting, Mrs. Meredith gave a supper at The Jefferson in honor of Miss Paul, having as her guests the executive committee of the Virginia branch, and those who had come from other states to attend the Virginia Conference.

The suffragists present at the conference believe that work started with such earnestness and enthusiasm as shown at the convention must produce results that will cause Virginia Congressmen to regard national woman suffrage as one of the most important issues in Congress. The Congressmen will know that women in their own state are calling on them for favorable action on the suffrage amendment.

LAST week (wrote Miss Mabel Vernon, on June 15) I spoke on national woman suffrage before the Virginia Federation of Labor in convention at Fredericksburg. The entire body was most interested in the discussion of the national situation, and when I had finished there was prolonged applause. When the woman delegate who had introduced me took occasion to mention "states' rights," only one man in the hall showed approval by applauding, and I afterwards learned he was not a member of the convention. After the session a large number of men came to me, and while inviting me to visit the local unions in the state took the opportunity to say, "I'm with you."

On Wednesday before the convention, we were fortunate enough to have an unusual number of speakers to address open air meetings on a night when a torchlight parade drew thousands of people on to the streets. Mrs. Edna Latimer, of Baltimore, and Mr. Louis Kracke, of Richmond College, held forth from an automobile at one street corner; while Mr. Jesse Duke and I went to another corner, and speaking from a chair (borrowed from a drug store), gathered another crowd just as large. Then the speakers exchanged stands and held the crowds for more than two hours. By large majorities resolutions were passed at these meetings asking Representative Montague to vote for the national suffrage amendment. This is an evidence of the way numbers of people in Virginia feel towards national action on the suffrage question.

Immediately after the convention Mrs. Latimer and I went to Norfolk, where we addressed an open air meeting Friday afternoon in front of Equal Suffrage Headquarters. Friday evening, Mrs. Walter Adams, the first vice-chairman of the newly organized Virginia branch of the Congressional Union, presided at a most remarkable street meeting attended by at least five hundred people. This meeting endorsed the national suffrage amendment by passing a resolution calling on Mr. E. E. Holland, of Suffolk, the representative from the district, to vote for it.

Saturday morning a meeting of Congressional Union members was held at the Hotel Monticello, at which arrangements were made for an interview with Mr. Holland. On the telephone Mr. Holland expressed himself as "delighted to meet the suffragists," at any time they might appoint. The committee will wait upon him Friday afternoon, June 18, in the parlors of the Monticello. Mrs. Walter Adams will lead the delegation. Saturday afternoon a meeting was held in Portsmouth, and Saturday night another immense crowd in Norfolk listened to a discussion of woman suffrage and a national amendment providing for it.

The conviction appears to be spread abroad in Virginia that "suffrage is coming," and there seems to be little objection to the submission of the question by Congress to the legislatures of the states.

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The Susan B. Anthony Amendment

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of the said legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:

"ARTICLE.—SEC. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"SEC. 2. Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article."

HISTORY OF THE AMENDMENT

Drafted

In its present form, by Susan B. Anthony in 1875.

First Introduced

Into Congress, January 10, 1878, by Hon. A. A. Sargent, in the U. S. Senate.

Reported from Committee,

In the Senate,

1878, Adverse majority.
1879, Favorable minority.
1882, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1884, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1886, Favorable majority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1892, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1896, Adverse majority.
1913, Favorable majority.
1914, Favorable majority.

In the House,

1883, Favorable majority.
1884, Adverse majority, favorable minority.
1886, Favorable minority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1894, Adverse majority.
1914, Without recommendation.

Voted Upon

In the Senate,

January 25, 1887. Yeas 16, nays 34. Absent 26, (of whom 4 were announced as for, and 2 against).

March 19, 1914. Yeas 35, nays 34, failing by 11 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

In the House,

January 12, 1915. Yeas 174, nays 204 failing by 78 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

Suffrage in the States and Nation

ONE of the most encouraging features connected with the work of organizing groups of women in the various states for the support of the Susan B. Anthony amendment is the rapid realization spreading among all suffragists, of the close and helpful relation between state and federal work for woman suffrage.

Women who are interested primarily in the federal amendment cannot fail to see that all the organization and propaganda work done by the state suffragists is of immense value to the national movement.

State workers not so long accustomed to the federal idea in connection with suffrage have been quick to understand the help which federal activity can give to their state work.

Federal work for woman suffrage has all the inspiration of the "great idea"—the union of the women of the whole nation for the enfranchisement of the women of the nation.

It centers attention on politicians who are nationally known; and all the public interest which in every state is attached to these federal representatives, can be made use of in the national suffrage campaign and comes to the good of the state.

But the chief value of federal work to state work for suffrage is that it reveals to the local politicians the national character and the national strength of the suffrage movement. The local politician may have his constituency entirely in his hand, and may feel entirely independent of the strength of the suffrage movement in his particular state; but he cannot fail to realize its irresistible force in the nation.

When one-sixth of the electoral vote already comes from suffrage states, any politician can realize that the victory of the national suffrage movement is close at hand.

Every town and county opponent can be made to feel that the women of his constituency will shortly be enfranchised, if not by the state, by the nation; and that his record on the question of women's right to citizenship will be well remembered by one-half of the electorate of his constituency.

It is of immense value to a state campaign to have active federal work going on within the state. A reform movement when it reaches the practical stage relies no longer on argument alone; it relies on its working strength, and every activity is of immense value which makes this strength apparent. A state which would shut out federal activities from its territory would throw away three fourths of its fighting force.

But there is no state which would so exclude itself from the national aspect of our movement. The women most ardently interested in the enfranchisement of their state are usually the most eager for the enfranchisement of the nation.

When Should a State Begin Federal Work?

THERE is hardly a state organization which is not anxious that the national work for woman suffrage should go on, and should go on fast.

But there are still some state workers who are anxious that the national suffrage movement should make headway in all other states, only not in their own.

"You have the whole nation to work in," they say, "but it would be a great error to come into our state now."

If national work were carried on only in states which, in the opinion of every single "state" suffragist, were "fully ripe" for it, it would not be carried on at all.

In one state, an anxious colleague told us they had labored long with the grind of organization, and were now for the first time in a position to obtain a state legislative victory. It would be a great mistake at this juncture to divide their forces by undertaking federal work.

In another state more than one worker said their organization work was just about to begin. After the work of organization, preliminary to all successful activity, was perfected, their society could be used for national as well as for state purposes; but until it was perfected, it would be a mistake to attack the latter stages of the work before passing through the first stages.

It is quite commonly believed by the suffragists of a campaign state, that federal activity should be rigidly excluded from the entire state territory.

On the other hand, when the state amendment has been defeated, occasional state workers declare that they are greatly encouraged by the advance made since the last vote was taken, and are convinced that with the necessary organization the next vote in the state legislature will be a successful one if all forces are concentrated upon it, and the national campaign kept at a safe distance. Not that national activities should stop, which would immensely cripple the suffrage movement in our country—but they should stop in that state.

Even in the suffrage states, where few suffrage organizations exist, workers for the national campaign are confidently confronted with the statement that there is no place there for national suffrage activity. Where women vote, the suffrage question has been disposed of.

But, if national workers meet at every turn excellent arguments for doing nothing, so do state workers. Every pioneer, wherever she goes, is informed that while her work would be eminently successful somewhere else, it is impractical just there and just now. It would be a poor suffragist who would be daunted by such a contention.

The simple fact is that the place for suffrage work is everywhere and the acceptable time is always now. On this principle the women of every state are rapidly uniting in a great national army.

CONGRESSIONAL UNION CONVENTION IN CONNECTICUT

AT the Connecticut Convention of the Congressional Union, which was held in Hartford on June 8 and 9, very deep interest was manifested in the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, which aims to achieve the national enfranchisement of women by an amendment to the United States Constitution removing from the ballot the qualification of sex.

This Convention was the fifth State convention which the Congressional Union has held in the execution of its plan to organize in every State a convention of women, who will consider a practical plan of work to increase the support behind the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, and secure its passage through Congress in the next session.

The Connecticut convention opened with a brilliant luncheon at the Hotel Bond, at which a hundred people were present. Mrs. E. G. H. Schenck, of Wilton, acted as toastmistress. Congressman E. J. Hill, of Norwalk, United States Representative from the Fourth District of Connecticut, made a magnificent speech in support of the national suffrage amendment; the speech is given in part on page six of this issue. Other speakers at the luncheon included Mrs. Edward O. Parker, of Greenwich; Miss Emma Opper, of New Canaan, and Mrs. John Rogers, jr., of New York.

IMMEDIATELY after the luncheon the afternoon session of the convention was held in the Hotel Bond, to consider the principles and program of the Congressional Union. A charming address of welcome was given by Mrs. George H. Day, who gave as her reason for supporting the Susan B. Anthony amendment that she did not care to work for suffrage fifty years hence, but wished to have many opportunities of casting a ballot in her own person, as an enfranchised citizen, before she departed these scenes. The chairman, Mrs. Annie G. Porritt, then introduced as the first speaker Professor Charles A. Beard.

Professor Beard, said in part: "Between State work and national work for woman suffrage there is no necessary antagonism. National work is impossible without State work; and national work gives to State work the greatest possible impetus and inspiration. As for the question of this or that organization or association, no woman who really cares for the cause of woman suffrage ought to allow personal considerations, nor the idea of 'loyalty,' to sway her judgment in regard to what is best for the cause. I would willingly," added Professor Beard, turning to Miss Paul, "attend your official funeral and that of the Congressional Union, if there should arise some quicker and better way of attaining our end."

Professor Beard, who holds the chair of Political Science at Columbia University, then gave a clear and vivid account of the political position of the suffrage movement—of the States where women have the vote, and the manner in which their votes can be used as a lever to obtain the enfranchisement of the rest of the women of the United States. "Women who can vote," said Professor Beard, "can demand of the party in power favorable action on woman suffrage, and judge those who seek reelection at their hands as representatives of that party, by its record on woman suffrage." Professor Beard appealed to women to put loyalty to votes for women ahead of loyalty to any party, Democratic or Republican; to do otherwise, he said, was to betray the suffrage movement in the United States.

Mrs. Annie G. Porritt

Who, with Mrs. George H. Day, Organized the Connecticut Convention of the Congressional Union

Mrs. John Rogers, Jr., paid a tribute of gratitude to the Congressional Union for the assistance they rendered to the States in their local work. "Many times," said Mrs. Rogers, "a Congressman won't come out flatly against woman suffrage. He avoids the issue by saying that he is in favor of enfranchisement State by State. If after making such a declaration, he is asked to favor a State measure, he is placed in an awkward corner and can only get out of the difficulty by favoring local work." Mrs. Rogers gave a detailed and very clear explanation of the two suffrage amendments to the United States Constitution now before the country; and urged the support of one amendment only, and that the Susan B. Anthony Amendment—the simple and direct way to the enfranchisement of women.

Mrs. Crystal Eastman Benedict then advocated the Susan B. Anthony amendment for the same reason that Professor Beard favored it—that in working nationally suffragists could appeal to the political power in the hands of the enfranchised women, an asset to the suffrage cause which could not be utilized in State campaigns.

In the evening a reception was held in the Lower Unity Hall, at which Mrs. M. Toscan Bennett, Mrs. Annie G. Porritt and Miss Alice Paul were the speakers.

THE following morning a delegation of women assembled to visit in deputation Honorable P. D. Oakey, U. S. Congressman from Hartford. The members of the delegation wore the beautiful purple, white and gold regalia of the Congressional Union or carried its banners.

Mr. Oakey received the deputation with the greatest affability. Mrs. M. Toscan Bennett, who acted as chairman, said, "We are not here today to obtain your final answer on the Susan B. Anthony Amendment. You will indicate that, we know, by your vote in Congress. We are here to explain to you the strong desire of your constituents for the passage of the Susan B. Anthony amendment, and our reasons for favoring it." Mrs. Bennett then introduced Mrs. Helena Hill Weed, daughter of Congressman E. J. Hill, of Connecticut, who spoke on "The Constitutional Aspect of Woman Suffrage by Federal Amendment." Mrs. John Rogers, Jr., who followed her, said it was now a question which party would be sufficiently wide-awake and sufficiently alive to the needs of the times to adopt woman suffrage, in view of the fact that there are already nearly 4,000,000 women who have the right to vote.

Congressman Oakey, who listened with profound attention to the points which were laid before him, promised to give the measure his unprejudiced consideration. The delegation disbanded with the feeling that it had accomplished a very important object in focussing on public attention the local demand for the national enfranchisement of women, and had taken an important first step in securing the allegiance of the Congressman from Hartford to the federal suffrage amendment.

IN THE afternoon, at a second meeting at Lower Unity Hall, a Connecticut branch of the Congressional Union was organized. A Constitution was adopted for Connecticut based on the Constitution of the National Congressional Union, and the following officers were elected: Mrs. W. D. Ascough, Hartford, chairman; Mrs. E. G. H. Schenck, Wilton, vice-chairman; Mrs. Paul P. Swett, Secretary; Mrs. C. M. Gallup, treasurer. Mrs. William Spencer Murray accepted the chairmanship of the Third Congressional District of Connecticut; chairmen for the remaining four districts will be appointed later. These officers, with the Connecticut members of the Advisory Council, who are Mrs. Annie G. Porritt, Mrs. George H. Day and Miss Edythe Wynne Matthison, form the Executive Committee of the State. At the afternoon meeting pledges were taken up amounting to $300.

The chairman of the Third Congressional District, Mrs. William Spencer Murray, who is about to leave New Hampshire for the summer, promptly organized a deputation to Congressman Tilson for Monday morning, June 14. About twenty women wearing the regalia and carrying banners of the Congressional Union assembled at Mr. Tilson's office. The deputation was introduced by Mrs. Murray and the speakers were Mrs. W. D. Ascough, chairman of the Connecticut Branch of the Congressional Union, and Mrs. Annie G. Porritt.

A deputation is now being arranged to wait upon Senator McLean, and the work of further organization will be carried on with earnest diligence.

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CONFESSIONS OF A CONVERT

By the Hon. Ebenezer J. Hill, Congressman from Connecticut

From a Speech Delivered at the Connecticut Convention of the Congressional Union, Hartford, June 8, 1915.

I FRANKLY confess that I have become a convert to a belief in the absolute justice of the principle of equal suffrage, and that without it, popular government falls very far short of its full development.

The only excuse I can give for myself (and others) until a year ago, is that we allowed our prejudices to control our reason and conscience, and the importance of other questions more urgently pressed, to control our action. . . .

The first shock to my calm contentment with the existing order of things, came three years ago, when the District of Columbia Appropriation Bill was reported with a proviso that an appropriation should be made from the Treasury of the United States to provide a fund from which pensions should be paid to the police and firemen of the District, for which the police court fines and local license fees had previously been set aside.

Mr. James R. Mann, of Illinois, who in my judgment knows more about the wants and necessities of this nation than any other man in it, and who would make a splendid Republican candidate for the Presidency, at once declared that the funds were for a purely local purpose; and he offered an amendment that a special election should be held in the District at which every taxpayer, and taxpayers only, should be allowed to vote on the question of whether they should lay a special tax on their own property for that particular purpose. The question was at once raised: Does that include women voting, as well as men? Mr. Mann replied that it did, and the fundamental principles of the whole suffrage question were fully discussed; and when the vote was taken the Mann amendment was carried. . . .

It seemed to me fair and just and right and I then cast my first vote for equal suffrage. . . .

GREAT political changes are in progress in this country.

The primary election for the nomination of candidates for office prevails in many States and is sure to come in all of them.

Senators are hereafter to be elected by popular vote.

The nomination of Presidential candidates by a nation-wide primary, and their election by popular vote, will speedily follow.

Some of the States in the West have already largely increased their voting strength by granting the right of suffrage to women.

With the Western vote doubled and the Southern vote cut in two, and varying standards of qualification for suffrage in the East, government by majority becomes a farce; and the resulting unequal imposition of taxes and appropriation of public monies will inevitably lead to sectional strife and bitterness, and greatly retard, if it does not endanger, the future prosperity of the nation. . . .

This question overleaps the boundaries of a single State.

The Federal Government has fixed a standard of qualification for United States citizenship.

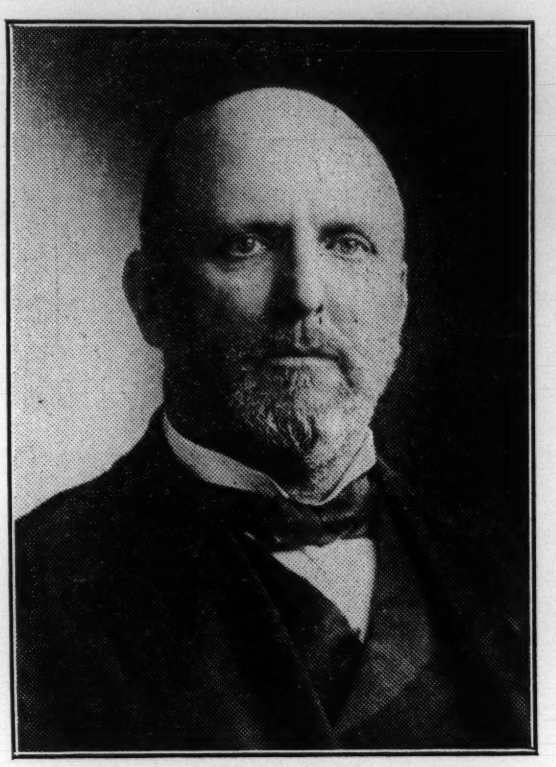
Why should it longer allow forty-eight States to have forty-eight different standards of qualification for performing the duties and exercising the powers and privileges of the citizen of the United States in voting? . . .

Today, the National Government, through its legislative and executive power, touches the individual citizen in a thousand ways of which the fathers never knew or dreamed.

It claims jurisdiction over the birds in the air and the fish in the sea, over navigable rivers and the sources of water supply, over the mines in the ground and the crops on the surface.

It is classifying our highways as postroads, and regulating our railroads.

It provides for drainage and reclamation of swamps, for irrigation of arid lands, for preservation of forests and conservation of all natural resources. It standardizes the food which we eat and the clothes which we wear. Through the Federal Reserve System, seven men in Washington are given the power to dictate where and how our money shall be loaned and the rate of interest we shall receive for it. It builds railroads in Alaska and taxes Connecticut to help pay for them.



Representative E. J. Hill
of Connecticut

Capital and labor, transportation and manufacturing, all are made subject to national investigation and regulation, and there is hardly a form of human activity which has not been brought under control by the Federal power, either by the rulings of the Executive Departments, or by the legislation of Congress; and the last decision of the Supreme Court practically wipes out State lines, and takes away the jurisdiction of the State over its own creatures by the broad assertion that where State and Federal regulations clash, even in purely State matters, the State must surrender its hitherto reserved rights to the greater power. . . . Indeed, with an appropriation anywhere in sight, it is difficult to find a states rights' man now anywhere in Washington, except from New England. . . .

A VERY important change of policy has been made by the political party to which I belong. Hereafter the number of Delegates to the Presidential Nominating Convention is to be based in part on votes cast in the Congressional Districts instead of on population as heretofore. As a result of that change the Southern States will lose 76 Delegates, Tennessee 3, New York 2, and the Territories and Possessions 8.

Carried to its logical conclusions, as will inevitably be the case in the not distant future, the influence of New England in the party councils will become negligible as compared with the Suffrage States; and if a general Presidential Primary goes into operation as advocated by the present Executive, New England must adopt Equal Suffrage as a matter of self-protection, or cease to take an active interest in presidential nominations; for the votes cast in the Southern Congressional Districts average 8,380, in New England 32,770, and in the Suffrage States 59,904. . . .

I SHALL vote in favor of an amendment providing that the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State, on account of sex.

There can be no justifiable claim that the passage of such an amendment is an infringement in any sense whatever upon the rights of the States, for the method of changing the Federal Constitution is clearly expressed in the document itself, and every State in the Union has assented to its terms. Under the Articles of Confederation the consent of every State to any change whatever was required, and under that stipulation the whole system of government broke down. Under the new Constitution which became a necessity, it was provided that a ratification of any change by three-fourths of the States should be considered as an acceptance of such change by all of them, and every person who claims citizenship under that Constitution should cheerfully and loyally accept of its provisions.

Every one of the seventeen amendments which have thus far been made to that great document have been initiated by Congressional action and ratified by the States of the Union; indeed, every one of the thirty-three amendments to our own State Constitution have been made in precisely the same way.

THE question still remains, How can this great reform be most thoroughly and promptly brought about?

There are two proposed methods.

One is a plan presented in the last Congress by Senator Shafroth, of Colorado. It provides in brief that an amendment to the Constitution of the United States shall be passed by a two-thirds vote of the Congress, which when ratified by three-fourths of the State legislatures, shall permit eight per cent. of the legal voters of any State to petition such State for a submission of the question to the entire electorate, whether women shall have equal rights with men to vote at all elections; and if such vote is decided in the affirmative the right shall be established, anything to the contrary in the Constitution or laws of such State notwithstanding.

Senator Shafroth is a thoroughly upright and straight-forward man, honest with himself in his views and convictions on all questions; but he seems to be going a long way round to get at a result.

The other method which is proposed is the Anthony Amendment, which provides simply and solely that the right of the citizens of the United States shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex; and if adopted by a two-thirds vote of Congress and ratified by three-fourths of the States would be just as effective in accomplishing its object, as the Fifteenth Amendment was in giving the right to vote to the black man, without any supplementary legislative action whatever on the part of the States.

In any case "It's a long, long way to Tipperary;" but Senator Shafroth lives in Denver; and to adopt his method would seem to me like crossing the ocean, traversing the war zone, passing the battle lines on the frontiers of France and Belgium, crossing Germany, again passing the lines of battle on the Eastern Frontier of Russia, passing through Russia and Siberia, sailing from Vladivostok to San Francisco, and then climbing the Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountains in search of the Senator in his own home city of Denver.

If on the other hand, your "heart is still" for equal suffrage in all its simplicity and effectiveness, my sincere advice would be that you take the steamer from New York, land at Queenstown and take a morning walk to *your* Tipperary, where, in the words of the new song, you will find the "sweetest girl you know," the Susan B. Anthony Amendment for Equal Suffrage.

CAMPAIGN THROUGH THE COUNTRY

California

Headquarters: *Congressional Union Booth in the Palace of Education, Exposition Grounds, San Francisco.*
Chairman: *Miss Charlotte Anita Whitney.*
Organizers: *Miss Margaret Fay Whittemore, Miss Doris Stevens.*

THE Exhibition of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage at the Panama-Pacific Exposition was this week among the exhibits honored by an award, consisting of a silver medal and certificate attesting to the value of the Union exhibit from both an educational and political standpoint. It was considered one of the distinctive exhibits in the Palace of Education and Political Economy. The board, representing many nations, consisted of Miss Mary Olmstead, secretary; Dr. Rupert Blue, U. S. P. H. S.; Mrs. Jean H. Norris, New York; Mr. Alvin E. Pope, chief of the Palace of Education; Mr. John R. Taylor, Cuba; Mr. Herman Bucher, Argentina; Baroness Von Dambenoy, Netherlands; Dr. S. C. Simms, chairman of Awards Committee; Dr. John E. Snodgrass, P. I.

This week an unusual opportunity was afforded the Congressional Union by the International Congress of Working Women for the Promotion of Permanent Peace, to speak under the peace banner, which is also purple, white and gold, at several points within the Exposition, on their special Peace Day, June 4. Mrs. Woodnut Burr, a prominent member of the Union, Mrs. Elizabeth Gerberding and myself were asked by Mrs. May Wright Sewall, in charge of the Peace demonstration, to represent the place of national suffrage in relation to International Peace. There were peace speakers in every building on the Exposition grounds; and it was an unusual courtesy on the part of the Congress to ask us to speak, in the first place, and to ask for three speakers. We pointed out that constructive peace, which means permanent peace, could only come about through the freedom of women; and that the more speedily that enfranchisement could be brought about—in this country through the constitutional amendment—the more speedily could world peace be brought about. We pointed out that it was no mere coincidence that had kept the equal suffrage nations of Europe out of the maelstrom of war.

The commission to the Exposition from Denmark sent a deputation of four members to the Suffrage booth this week to announce the full enfranchisement of the women of Denmark, which the King cabled to the San Francisco Commission to Denmark. Denmark was represented at our international suffrage meeting by Mrs. A. B. Holm, although the bill was still in parliament and women enjoying but partial suffrage.

The final event of this week was the reception tendered Representative and Mrs. Kent, at the Suffrage booth of the Exposition, by the Congressional Union. Though Mr. Kent was detained on official business, many men and women crowded the suffrage booth to welcome them, among the guests being Rabbi Nieto, one of the staunch California believers in suffrage, and Representative James A. Frear, of Wisconsin, who spoke briefly on the constitutional amendment.

Mrs. Kent declared that no measure was half so important as the freedom of half the country, and that she believed with Miss Alice Paul that the suffrage amendment would be the very first to come up when Congress convenes, because of the demand of the 4,000,000 enfranchised women of the West after the convention of women voters in September.

Miss Doris Stevens, who this week arrived in San Francisco, to begin organization for the convention in September, spoke also, and to the point: "It is really difficult," she declared, "to make a United States Congressman catch up with public opinion. But it can be done through the strong demand of the suffrage states of the West. Consider that Mr. Wilson was elected by a 6,000,000 majority, with three great parties in the field. We think that with 4,000,000 voting women standing behind our demand for an amendment, we can make ourselves felt. The Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage began their work on the promise that everyone had a right to self-government, and through the untiring effort of Miss Alice Paul and other workers of the Union, splendid results were secured in the last Congress. If we now put the freedom of women above every partisan issue, we are bound to win next Congress and save twentieth century statesmen the bother of deciding eighteenth century problems." Miss Stevens outlined the plans for the great convention of women voters in September for which she asked the support of all women.

Among the women who joined the Union this week are: Miss Alma Sullivan, newspaper writer of the San Francisco Call-Post; Mrs. Lydia Gibson Mestre, sculptor; Miss Ruth Carter Sherfey, social worker from Burlington, Iowa; M. Abbey, social worker of San Francisco; Mrs. Martha W. Caudle, art teacher; Mrs. Isabel Carpenter Kendall, editor, Chicago, Ill.; and Dr. Minora E. Kibbe, San Francisco.

Margaret Fay Whittemore,

District of Columbia

Headquarters: 1420 *F Street N. W., Washington, D. C.*
Chairman: *Mrs. Nina E. Allender.*

ARRANGEMENTS are going rapidly ahead for the excursion down the Potomac on the steamer, St. Johns, on June 22. This excursion promises to be one of the most delightful affairs ever given by the Congressional Union. Two thousand suffragists, it is expected, will take part in the excursion.

Home-made sandwiches will be on sale; suffrage songs and speeches will be gratis. Tickets for the excursion, at 25 cents, may be obtained at the Congressional Union headquarters.

A meeting of the officers of the District branch of the Congressional Union was held at 1420 F Street on Saturday, June 5. Miss Estelle Hellman was appointed chairman of the seventh precinct; Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley resigned as vice-chairman of the District in order to accept the chairmanship of the tenth precinct.

Marie Moore Forrest.

Maryland

Headquarters: 105 *West Saratoga Street, Baltimore.*
Chairman: *Mrs. Townsend Scott.*
Organizer: *Mrs. Edna Story Latimer.*

MRS. DONALD R. HOOKER, chairman of the Finance Committee, entertained the members and friends of the Congressional Union at a supper and barn dance Friday evening, June 18. The barn presented a most attractive appearance, decorated with purple, white and gold, the colors of the Union. Across one end of the barn was the beautiful amendment banner, "We Demand an Amendment to the United States Constitution, Enfranchising Women." At the other end was the banner of the Maryland branch. Japanese parasols and lanterns completed the decorations. During the intermission, Miss Elsie Hill, daughter of Congressman E. J. Hill, of Connecticut, and a member of the Executive Board of the Union, spoke briefly on the economy of Federal work for woman suffrage.

A substantial sum of money was pledged for national work in Maryland.

Maryland suffragists have been greatly interested in the attractive shop that has been opened by the Congressional Union in Baltimore. There are many beautiful articles on sale; and a good supply of practical ones, such as thread, needles and pins. A big trade in these articles has already been begun.

On Tuesday evening, June 15, Mrs. Latimer spoke before the Chevy Chase League on "The Economy of Federal Work."

Mrs. Latimer said: "There are three advantages in working for an amendment to the United States Constitution. It saves *time, money* and *energy*. It saves us the stupendous task of appealing to the 21,000,000 male voters throughout the whole United States. This alone is sufficient argument in favor of the method of the Congressional Union."

Many new members were obtained and all expressed a confident belief in the early passage of the Susan B. Anthony amendment.

Members of the Sixth Congressional District are waiting to learn from Mr. David J. Lewis what day he will receive a suffrage delegation from his District.

Edna Story Latimer.

New York

Headquarters: 13 *East Forty-first Street, New York City.*
Chairman: *Mrs. William L. Colt.*

MRS. KATE J. BOECKH, a devoted worker for the Federal amendment at Washington, flew over Hempstead, Long Island, on Friday, June 11, in an aeroplane, at a height of 2,350 feet, Mr. P. C. Newman at the wheel. Mrs. Boeckh dropped suffrage literature while passing over Hempstead, where a local tournament was going on, at which suffragists were taking an active part. This is the first time in the history of aeronautics that this has been done for woman suffrage. The machine was trimmed with Votes-for-Women pennants.

New Members

AMONG the prominent new members who have joined the Congressional Union during the past week are Miss Mary D. McFadden, legislative chairman of the Minnesota Woman Suffrage Association; Miss A. G. Mabee, President of the Women Workers' Club of Minneapolis; Mrs. M. N. Thygeson, member of the State Board of the Minnesota Woman Suffrage Association; Mrs. Joseph Stronge, of St. Paul, chairman of the Travelers' Aid Branch of the Y. W. C. A.; Mrs. Edward O. Parker, field secretary of the Connecticut Society of Social Hygiene; Miss Agnes E. Doherty, formerly vice-president of the Minnesota State Woman Suffrage Association, and Miss Jessie Ashley, formerly treasurer of the National Woman Suffrage Association.

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1,000 New Subscribers

MRS. LUCIA HANNA HADLEY, of Denver, writes us: "I wish every woman might read THE SUFFRAGIST, as each number is full of valuable information." Mrs. Hadley enclosed a new subscription for the paper.

If you think as Mrs. Hadley does, will you do as she does? Will you send us a new subscriber?

Members Who Have Secured New Subscribers to "The Suffragist"

In this column we list the subscribers sent in each week by our members. These are only a part of the total number of new subscriptions.

JUNE 8 THROUGH JUNE 14.

Miss Alice Paul	5
Miss Margaret Fay Whittemore	4
Mrs. S. Babcock	1
Mrs. Helena Hill Weed	2
Mrs. Mary E. Bown	2
Miss Harriette Hifton	1
Mrs. Lucia Hanna Hadley	1
Miss Lucy Burns	2
Miss Emma F. Baxter	2
Miss May A. Church	2
Mrs. Jose E. Chaves	1
Miss Vivian Pierce	1
Miss Edith L. Swift	1
Secured through Mrs. W. T. Burch—	
Mrs. A. R. Colvin	3
	28
Previously acknowledged in THE SUFFRAGIST	962
Total through June 14	990

New Member of the Advisory Council

MRS. ALFRED H. BRIGHT, of Minneapolis, formerly President of the Minnesota Woman Suffrage Association, has consented to represent her state on the Advisory Council of the Congressional Union.

Treasurer's Report

Lists of Contributions from June 8 through June 12

Mr. H. R. Mallison	$20.00
Mrs. Frances B. Ackermann	10.00
Miss Doris Stevens, collected	4.65
Mrs. Joseph Strong	5.00
Miss Abbie Gail Mabee	1.00
Miss Katherine J. Smith	10.00
Dr. Edith Forness	2.00
Mrs. Alden H. Potter	25.05
Anonymous	.50
Mrs. Richard Chute	5.00
Mlle. Anna Dreyfus	1.00
Mrs. Andreas Ueland	2.00
Mrs. Anna Lowenburg	25.00
Miss Mary D. Sisson	.25
Mrs. James P. Winchester	2.00
Miss Laura M. Cheavens	5 00
Equal Suffrage Association of Wilmington, Del	5.00
Mrs. Martha J. T. Gough	2.00
Mrs. Frances T. Rhoads	5.00
Miss Susan Howland	10.00
Miss Winifred J. Robinson	5 00
Miss Almira Gifford	5.00
Miss Mary A. Conkle	5.50
Mrs. Lydia H. Richards	10.00
Miss Ellen C. duPont	3.00
Mr. George H. Hogue	5.00
Mrs. Julian Ortiz	10.00
Miss Rachael S. Howland	1.00
Mrs. Mary Brown	1.00
Mrs. Frances Harris	2.00
Mrs. Joseph d'Ilario	1.00
Mrs. Elizabeth Fairlamb	.25
Miss Elizabeth P. Speakman	.40
Mrs. Thomas McGee	.25
Mrs Cornelius Mundy	3.00
Mrs. Irving Warner	2.00
Miss Florence Kane	5.00
Mrs. Walter W. Carter	45.00
Mrs. John Swift	1.00
Mrs. Austin Sperry	1.00
Miss Margaret Whittemore	1.00
Mrs. E. Autrey	1.00
Mrs. George Sperry	1.00
Mrs. Christian Hemmick	5.00
Miss Aline Solomons	3.00
Miss Jessie Ashley	1.00
Mrs. Charles V. Meredith	5.00
Mrs. Townsend Scott	12.00
Mrs. G. W. Latimer	1.75
Mrs. Edna S. Latimer	10.00
Mrs. S. P. Schott	5.00
Mrs. N. Briggs Ells	1.50
The Misses Jamison	.50
Judge Stanton J. Peelle	6.00
Judge Laird Henry	5.00
Hon. E. Clay Timanus	5.00
Hon. Albert G. Towers	5.00
Miss Lucy Burns	1.00
Mrs. George M. Kenyon	1.00
Miss Josephine Schain	1.00
Miss Elsa Ueland	1.00
Miss Agnes Von Scholten	1.00
Mrs. Cornelia B. Forbes	2.00
Mrs. Henry Deutsch	5.00
Mrs. J. C. Holman	1.25
Mrs. L. C. Bacon	6.00
Mrs. F. H. Orton	1.00
Mrs. G. O. House	1.00
Mrs. H. A. Tomlinson	1.00
Collection	135.66
Membership fees	52.25
Sale of tickets	96.55
Total	622.31
Previously acknowledged in THE SUFFRAGIST	66,123.90
Total through June 12, 1915	$66,746.21

Supreme Court Decisions and Votes For Women

THE Supreme Court of the United States is considering a number of questions which are of deep social significance, and which, no matter how they are decided, are likely to prove issues in the approaching Presidential campaign.

The Webb-Kenyon liquor law cases will shortly come before the Supreme Court. It must then be determined whether Congress, in prohibiting an interstate shipment of liquor, intended the Federal law to be applied to shipments for personal use. If the law is so construed as to permit the shipment of liquor for personal use, it will be shorn, in the opinion of anti-saloon leaders, of most of its vitality, and the enactment of new legislation on the same subject will become a matter of practical politics.

Another issue pending in the United States Supreme Court is that of the minimum wage. The minimum wage case involves the constitutionality of the Oregon Minimum Wage Law by which the Oregon Industrial Commission fixed the wage of women employed in manufacturing establishments in Portland at $8.74 a week. The annulment of this law would have momentous results on all labor legislation.

Several other suits, including that against the International Harvester Co., are awaiting decision, and may leave problems for platform makers and legislators.

With such questions shortly to come before the people, it is imperative that women obtain the right to influence the decisions of Congress.

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